

Application No. 10/716,899  
Response to Office Action

Customer No. 01933

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph at page 4, lines 21-23 as follows:

~~Other~~ Another object of this invention is to prolong the life of the wiping member, and to maintain a good wiping performance of the wiping member for a prolonged period of time.

Please amend the paragraph at page 7, line 20 to page 8, line 3 as follows:

The printing section 5 performs printing, with the paper held on the outer periphery of the drum 8, by the printing unit 9 in accordance with a printing data while rotating the drum 8 at a predetermined speed. The printing unit 9 is provided with four nozzles units: 13C (cyan), 13Y (yellow), 13M (magenta), and 13B (black). The nozzle units 13C, 13Y, 13M and 13B are provided with an ink jet recording head 15 (see Fig. 2) which selectively ejects ink to the paper fed from the ~~conveying~~ conveying mechanism 11, from a plurality of nozzles 14 (see Fig. 2).

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Please amend the paragraph at page 8, lines 17-23 as follows:

As shown in Fig. 2, the ink jet recording apparatus 1 is provided with an ink feed mechanism 17 for feeding ink to the ink jet recording head 15, an ink pressure control section 18 for controlling the feed pressure of ink to be supplied to from the ink feed mechanism 17, and a wiping mechanism 19 which is a maintenance mechanism for the maintenance of the ink jet recording head 15.

Please amend the paragraph at page 8, line 24 to page 9, line 7 as follows:

The ink jet recording head 15 is provided with a plurality of pressure chambers (not shown) for holding ink to be supplied to from the ink feed mechanism 17, and a nozzle plate 20 forming a part of these pressure chambers and having the nozzles 14 which communicate with the pressure chambers 14. The ink jet recording head 15 thus structured performs printing on paper with drops of ink ejected from the pressure chambers through the nozzles 14 by utilizing volume changes in the pressure chambers.

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Please amend the paragraph at page 17, lines 5-20 as follows:

When executing a maintenance operation, the moving mechanism 24 moves the wipe support member 23 from its home position to the end position in accordance with a change in the output of the home position sensor 36 and the end position sensor 37, and then returning returns the wipe support member 23 from the end position to its home position. ~~As~~ While the wipe support member 23 is moved to the end position, the cam 35 of the pressing mechanism 31 is ~~driven~~ positioned to ~~move~~ hold the tip of the wiping member 22a ~~into~~ in contact with the nozzle plate 20. In this state, the wipe support member 23 is moved in the direction of wiping. ~~When~~ While the wipe support member 23 returns to its home position after the wiping operation, the cam 35 of the pressing mechanism 31 is ~~driven to move~~ positioned such that the tips of the wiping members 22a, 22b and 22c ~~away from~~ do not contact the nozzle plate 20. ~~As another method~~ Alternatively, the wipe support member 23 may be so structured as to move downward, to thereby move the tips of the wiping members 22a, 22b and 22c away from the nozzle plate 20.